

Jack Horn

Dear Deborah Wiles,

Several years ago I was lucky enough to happen upon one of your books at a school book fair. Each Little Bird That Sings has been like a close friend ever since then. When I first picked it up, I knew that I would love this book. After I had read it and put it down that first time so many years ago, I had tears in my eyes. When I got to the page where I found out that Dismay was gone, I almost couldn't bring myself to keep reading. For years now my own dog, a chocolate lab named Harry, has had a limp, and has been unable to run and play like the others dogs because of the arthritis in his elbows. I always fear for his safety, for he escapes often and if he got hurt and didn't come home, our family would fall apart. Because of this similarity, I was able to connect with Comfort like I have never been able to do with any other book character. Actually, the entire theme of death in the family throughout the book has helped me withstand the recent death of my grandpa, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease when I was two, and who I was never able to carry on a normal conversation with. The relationship between Comfort and Great Uncle Edisto Snowberger is what I always pictured what the bond between my Grandpa and me would be, and I often turned to the book for consolation while Grandpa was in the hospital. Now that my Grandpa has passed, and Harry has a tumor, I know that I will be turning back to this wonderful book for comfort from Comfort.

Thank You,

Jack Horn